

## Washington State Department of Agriculture

## News Release

For immediate release: October 17, 1997

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(97-37)

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## Citizens join county commissioners to save steelhead

**WHAT**: Individuals and groups will participate in an open forum with commissioners of five counties to develop local action strategies to save steelhead in the Lower Columbia River. The counties are Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Skamania and Lewis.

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. October 18

WHERE: DoubleTree Inn, Kelso, Washington

**WHY**: The federal government has proposed adding Lower Columbia steelhead to the endangered species list. Ideas collected from citizens at the meeting will be included in the state plan to restore steelhead, which will be submitted to the federal government in December. Only if the plan is accepted by the federal government will local governments and their citizens maintain control of their natural resources.

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**Note to editors**: For information call Linda Crerar, Department of Agriculture (360) 902-1818;

- Clark County: Commissioner Betty Sue Morris or Troy Raeburn (360) 699-2232
- Cowlitz County: Commissioner Joel Rupley, forum chair (360) 577-3020
- Wahkiakum County: Commissioner Dan Smiley (360) 795-8048
- Skamania County: Commissioner Al McKee (509) 427-9447
- Lewis County: Commissioner Glen Aldrich (360) 740-1286